Preliminary Amendment of U.S. National Stage for International Application PCT/EP2004/004589 filed April 30, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 19-42 are currently pending in the instant application.

The English language translation of instant PCT Specification has been amended to delete the original section headings and to insert the preferred section headings pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.77 and MPEP Section 608.01(a). Further, the title of the invention is now included under the proper section heading and a Cross-Reference to Related Applications section has been added. The previous separate paragraphs under Field of the Invention and Prior Art are now included under the single section heading Background of the Invention. A Brief Summary of the Invention section has been added by incorporating the text of original claims 1, 2 and 11. (It replaces the introductory sentence under the original heading "Description of the Invention".) The description starting at page 1, line 25, is now preceded by the section heading "DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION". An Abstract of the Disclosure, in accordance with the disclosure, has been added on a separate page after the claims.

The amendments to the PCT Specification made herein introduce no new matter. Acceptance of the said amendments is therefore deemed proper and is respectfully requested.

Original claims 1-18 have been canceled and replaced with new claims 19-42 in order to improve clarity and grammar, which may suffer in translation, to remove multiple dependencies and to better conform with appropriate claim form, and not for any reason which relates to the statutory requirements for a patent. New claims 19-42 have not been added in response to any rejection, nor in anticipation of any rejection. Applicants respectfully submit that the scope of new claims 19-42 generally corresponds to the scope of original claims 1-18 and that new claims 19-42 are no narrower than original claims 1-18. Furthermore, although a moot point in view of their cancellation, Applicants respectfully submit that original claims 1-18 satisfied the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, as filed. New claims 19-42 are supported by the claims as originally filed and in the Specification and its examples. No new matter has been introduced. A complete listing of all claims ever presented is included herein in

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accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.121(c). Entry of the amendments to the claims is therefore deemed proper and respectfully requested.

Prompt examination of the instant application in view of the amendments made herein is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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